



**Minutes**  
of the  
Meeting of the  
**County Council**  
on  
**Tuesday, 16 July 2019**

1. **Agenda**
2. **Order of Business**
3. **Minutes**

# Minutes



To: All Members of the Council  
Chief Executive, Chief Officers

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services  
Ask for: Elaine Shell  
Ext: 25565

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MINUTES of the Meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Hertford, on Tuesday, 16 July 2019

You can watch the webcast of this meeting here [Webcast of Council Meetings](#)

## MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

D Andrews	J M Graham	A Plancey
D A Ashley	L Greensmyth	S Quilty
S Bedford	F Guest	N A Quinton
N Bell	J S Hale	I M Reay
J Bennett Lovell	D Hart	R M Roberts
P Bibby	K M Hastrick	A F Rowlands
J Billing	T C Heritage	R Sangster
S N Bloxham	D J Hewitt	R H Smith
S J Boulton	F R G Hill	S J Taylor
A P Brewster	N A Hollinghurst	R A C Thake
S Brown	T W Hone	R G Tindall
E H Buckmaster	T Howard	A S B Walkington
F Button	T R Hutchings	M A Watkin
L A Chesterman	S K Jarvis	J A West
H K Crofton	J R Jones	C J White
R C Deering	J S Kaye	A D Williams
T L F Douris	A K Khan	J D Williams
D S Drury	J G L King	P T Williams
M A Eames-Petersen	P V Mason	T J Williams
S J Featherstone	G McAndrew	C B Woodward
B A Gibson	M B J Mills-Bishop	C B Wyatt-Lowe (Chairman)
S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	A J S Mitchell	W J Wyatt-Lowe
E M Gordon	M D M Muir	J F Wyllie
S Gordon	R G Parker	P M Zukowskyj

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Meeting of the County Council held on 16 July 2019, as circulated, action was taken or decisions were reached as follows:-

## CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

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**1. MINUTES**

1.1 The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 May 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(a) WEBCASTING**

Webcasting: The Chairman advised that this meeting of the Council would be webcast live on the internet; that it would also be recorded and published on the Council's website and may also be published in other formats.

Any members of the press and public present were asked to note that if they were in the Council Chamber at any time during the meeting they acknowledged that they would be included in the webcast and recording; that all parts of the room can be seen or heard by the camera or microphones so any members of the press or public in attendance that did not wish to be recorded should leave the Chamber.

Electronic Voting: The Chairman advised that electronic voting would be used during the Council meeting as appropriate. Instructions for use were available in front of each Councillor.

**(b) LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCILS NETWORK**

Council congratulated David Williams, Leader of the Council, who had been elected Chairman of the County Councils Network which represents all 26 county councils in England and a further 10 rural unitary authorities.

**(c) BARBARA GIBSON, MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

Council congratulated Barbara Gibson, Liberal Democrat County Councillor for Haldens Division, on her election to the European Parliament, representing East of England.

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**(d) QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS 2019**

Andrew Bignell, Head of Library and Heritage Services

The Chairman announced that Andrew Bignell, Head of Library and Heritage Services had been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his 42-year service to Public Libraries with a British Empire Medal.

Council congratulated Andrew Bignell on his award.

Veronica Adlam, Health and Safety Manager

The Chairman announced that Veronica Adlam, Health and Safety Manager had been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours with a Member of the Order of the British Empire Medal for her work for services to firefighter safety.

Council congratulated Veronica Adlam on her award.

**(e) NEW DEPUTY LIEUTENANT APPOINTMENT**

Council congratulated Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection and Chief Fire Officer, on being appointed as a Deputy Lieutenant for Hertfordshire.

**(f) 1 COUNTY COUNCIL BIENNIAL PHOTOGRAPH**

The Chairman advised Council that the biennial photograph of Council Members would be taken that day at 1.00pm.

**(g) VIDEO - CELEBRATION OF HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES**

The Chairman advised Council that a video celebrating Hertfordshire County Council services would be played after the meeting for those councillors wishing to view it.

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**3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – STANDING ORDER 8 (10)**

**3A. 3.1 Mr S Czarnawski-Iliev, a resident of Royston, asked T L F Douris, Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism the following question:-**

*“Would the Councillor lend his support in principle to the provision of a safe pedestrian/cycle route to enable Royston teenagers to have safe, cheap and independent transport for accessing education, leisure, part-time employment, friends, family and all the things that make up normal life, but might happen to be a mile or two over the county border?”*

**3.2 T L F Douris, Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism, replied:-**

*“Thank you for your question which I note is similar in vein to that asked by Mr Nash to my colleague Councillor Derrick Ashley. I am also aware of questions posed by Mr Meadows and Mr Taylor at the November Council meeting.*

*From an educational perspective, we would always encourage pupils of all ages to walk or cycle to school, where it is safe for them to do so. Indeed, we regularly review opportunities to create or enhance safe routes to schools within Hertfordshire recognising the health, environmental and financial benefits of walking and cycling in keeping with the Local Transport Plan4 ambitions. We want our young people to be able to engage in local leisure activities.*

*I believe that we are all of a similar view that such a route would be of benefit and indeed I am aware that Councillor Ashley wrote on 19<sup>th</sup> June this year to the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority and to the Leader of the Combined Authority requesting their support for a cycle link over the A505 thus providing a continuous route and it is my understanding that we have had positive responses from Cambridgeshire.*

*Indeed, North Hertfordshire District Council and Hertfordshire County Council have been working with the Local Parish Council and reviewing planning applications to secure developer contributions and other potential funding where appropriate. Hertfordshire County Council is also working on proposals as part of the North Central Growth and Transport Plan to help routes connect to the bridge and consider the wider cycle infrastructure in the town.*

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*From this you will see that Hertfordshire County Council is working hard to achieve the required outcome, but this is a complex issue and it requires the support and commitment of all the relevant partners.”*

**3.3 Mr S Czarnawski-Iliev** thanked **T L F Douris, Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism** for his answer and confirmed that he did not have a supplementary question.

**3B. 3.4 Mr R Nash, a resident of Royston,** asked **D A Ashley, Executive Member for Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy,** the following question:-

*“Could Councillor Ashley please give us an update on work within the Council on the planned pedestrian and cycle bridge over the A505 north of Royston – particularly with reference to the Council’s recent application to the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership for funding for the bridge and also engagement with officers from Cambridge County Council and the Greater Cambridge Partnership on their Melbourn Greenways proposal?”*

**3.5 D A Ashley, Executive Member for Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy,** replied:-

*“Thank you for your question. First of all I apologise if the answer overlaps some of the answer to the previous question because of course they are related to the same topic. Just to repeat my colleagues report, I did write to Mayor James Palmer (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority), Councillor Steve Count (Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council, Combined Authority Board Member), and Councillor Lewis Herbert (Leader, Cambridge City Council, Greater Cambridge Partnership Board Chairman) who are the key decision makers in the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority and indeed are Board members of that and also members of Cambridge County Council and City Council.*

*Prior to the development of the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership there was an understanding between Hertfordshire County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council that the project to deliver the Cycle Link and Bridge over the A505 completing the route from Cambridge via Melbourne to Royston would be developed jointly, to help link communities to key services and employment areas.*

*As per the Melbourn Greenway Review Report which says ‘the Melbourn to Royston route is partly in Hertfordshire and is dependent*

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*for its success on a new bridge over the A505 on the edge of Royston'. This clearly recognises the need for co-operation between the authorities to bring forward the project.*

*As part of this commitment Hertfordshire County Council took a lead role in producing the feasibility study for the bridge with a commitment to maintaining the bridge once constructed. It was agreed that the construction of the route connections and bridge itself should be the joint responsibility of both authorities to fund and deliver. It was understood that there was agreement in principal that the Local Enterprise Partnerships for both areas were supportive of the project. Hertfordshire County Council sought funding to support the scheme by submitting a Local Enterprise Partnership bid in the November 2018 Open Call which unfortunately was unsuccessful due to match funding not being secured and concerns over delivery timescales.*

*North Hertfordshire District Council and Hertfordshire County Council have been working with the Local Parish Council and reviewing planning applications to secure developer contributions and other potential funding where appropriate. Hertfordshire County Council are also working on proposals as part of the North Central Growth and Transport Plan to help routes connect to the bridge and consider the wider cycle infrastructure in the town.*

*Following an officers' meeting towards the end of 2018, Hertfordshire County Council were informed that whilst the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership still have similar aspirations to Hertfordshire County Council in implementing the project, support from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority remained unclear and no decision had been made on committing funding to support the project.*

*Hertfordshire remains keen to work with the Partnership to promote the project and I have asked officers to re-establish links with the Project leads in the Partnership as the bridge is a vital component of the overall Cambridge, Melbourn and Royston Route. Unfortunately, I understand that the last two meetings have been cancelled. However, a new date for July has been proposed and I hope that it can be achieved to help discussions recommence. We hope that Cambridgeshire County Council and the Combined Authority recognise the value to South Cambridgeshire residents of a sustainable link to the employment opportunities offered by Royston; people do travel in from that route.*

*I have received correspondence back from Cambridgeshire and further to the officer meeting I intend to meet with them to discuss how we can work more closely to develop and enable the project to be delivered."*

**3.6 Mr R Nash, asked D A Ashley, Executive Member for Growth,**

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**Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy** the following supplementary question:-

*“I wondered if Councillor Ashley was aware of the latest accident on the A505/A10 roundabout, involving a cyclist a couple of weeks ago. Fire, ambulance and police were in attendance. Luckily, no serious injury; but just to underline the importance of trying to get this key bit of infrastructure in place.”*

**3.7 D A Ashley, Executive Member for Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy replied:-**

*“Thank you very much, I was aware of this accident and as I say, it just highlights the importance of trying to make progress and complete this project. As I said, I think it is very important that we keep up our dialogue with Cambridgeshire, and I think we are working closely with local Elected Members just across the border to try and bring this to fruition. So hopefully we can make some progress soon.”*

**4. PUBLIC PETITIONS – STANDING ORDER 15**

**4.1** None.

**5. OFFICER REPORTS RELEVANT TO EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS**

**5A. COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2019 – 2025**

**5.1** The following motion proposed by **J D Williams** and duly seconded by **T C Heritage** was CARRIED:-

*“That Council notes the County Council Corporate Plan 2019 – 2025 appended to the report.”*

**6. THE EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**6A. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**6.1** The following motion proposed by **J D Williams** was CARRIED:-

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*“That the report of the Executive (being the report under Standing Order 7) be received and that the position of Key Decisions in the decision-making process shown in the current edition of the Forward Plan referred to in the report be noted.”*

**6B. MOTIONS ARISING FROM THE EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**6.2 J Billing** requested that the **Chairman** agree to consider Motions 6B(i), 6B(iv) and 6B(v) at 6.2, 6.6 and 6.7 of the Order Paper together.

**6.3** The **Chairman** advised Council that she would be content with this approach.

**6.4 S B A F H Giles-Medhurst** advised the **Chairman** that he considered Motion 6B(iv) at 6.6 of the Order Paper to relate to a specific matter which he requested be considered separately to Motions 6B(i) and 6B(iv).

**6.5** Having considered the representations at 6.2 and 6.4 the **Chairman** advised Council that the Motions would be considered separately as set out in the Order Paper.

**6B(i) 6.6 P M Zukowskyj** advised Council that in accordance with Standing Order 11(5) he would accept the amendment at 6.3 of the Order Paper to the motion in his name on the Order Paper at 6B(i).

**6.7** The following motion proposed by **P M Zukowskyj** and duly seconded by **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst** was CARRIED:-

*“Council notes that:*

- a) The Financial Outlook report, presented to all cabinet panels, sets out the challenging financial position that the Council faces due to continuing uncertainty about the future level and sources of funding for services for the people of Hertfordshire at a time when demographic change is increasing demand for these services*
- b) The scope for further savings without seriously impacting services provided to the people of Hertfordshire is limited*

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- c) *The uncertainty about future funding caused by the delay in the government's spending review and fair funding review, a lack of clarity about the future allowed level of council tax rises and a continued failure to publish the adult social care green paper is adversely impacting the Council's budget*

*This Council welcomes the decision at Resources & Performance Cabinet Panel that the Chairman of the Panel write to all Hertfordshire MPs setting out these concerns and challenges, and believes all means possible should be taken to bring these issues to the attention of Government.*

*The Council therefore requests that the Leader of the Council in his new role as Chairman of the County Councils Network ensures that the CCN's advocacy, including meeting with Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government ministers, reflects the Council's concerns over the challenges this Council faces in delivering adequate services with the current level of funding and also explains how the ongoing uncertainty over local government funding is causing even more difficulty in the budget setting process.*

*This Council believes that the vital services delivered by local government should be properly resourced by a combination of locally and nationally raised funds, with clarity on funding levels set on a rolling basis over a four-year period."*

- 6B(ii) 6.8** The following motion was proposed by **J Bennett-Lovell** and duly seconded by **J G L King**:-

*"This Council notes:*

- *the decision of Cabinet to approve the final draft of the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) at its meeting on 8 July,*
- *that following a 12-week public consultation of this document, including an online survey and resident meetings, it was found that a majority of the public disagreed with the draft plan proposal regarding the reduction of fire-fighting crew numbers from 5 to 4,*
- *the increase in fire-injuries (is up 45%), deliberate primary fires (up 45%) and total incidents that require emergency response (up 26%, a total of over 2000 more) between 2014/15 and 2017/18,*
- *that multiple significant concerns were raised by the Fire*

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*Brigades Union (FBU) in their official response to the IRMP consultation which have not been reflected in the final draft document.*

*This Council believes:*

- *the ability of Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service to respond effectively to rising numbers of fires is only worsened by reducing crewing numbers from 5 to 4, placing the workforce and public at heightened risk,*
- *that this risk is only further increased by replacing more capable Type B fire-fighting vehicles with smaller Rapid Response Vehicles (RRVs) which will mean fewer firefighters operating less safely at incidents and may ultimately lead to the outcomes of incidents being less efficient and/or effective-to the detriment of our communities,*
- *that any expansion of the number of casualised contracts cannot take place without further consultation and agreement with Hertfordshire FBU,*
- *that cuts to our fire service are leaving fire-fighters and the public less safe and must therefore be unequivocally opposed.*

*This Council therefore:*

- *requests that Cabinet reverses the decision to reduce crew numbers from 5 to 4 (IRMP Proposal 4),*
- *requests that Cabinet reverses the decision to trial the use of smaller RRV vehicles in place of larger Type B vehicles (IRMP Proposal 3),*
- *opposes the further casualisation of fire-fighter contracts without further consultation and agreement with Hertfordshire FBU (IRMP Proposal 7).”*

**6.9** In accordance with Standing Order 13 (4) **J Bennett-Lovell** requested a recorded vote; this being supported by all Members of the Labour Group present.

**6.10** The motion at 6.8 was then voted upon and LOST, the recorded vote being:-

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Those in favour (9):-

N Bell	L A Chesterman	A K Khan
J Bennett-Lovell	M A Eames-Petersen	J G L King
J Billing	E M Gordon	S J Taylor

Those against (63):-

D Andrews	J S Hale	N A Quinton
D A Ashley	D Hart	I M Reay
S Bedford	K M Hastrick	R M Roberts
P Bibby	T C Heritage	A F Rowlands
S N Bloxham	D J Hewitt	R Sangster
S J Boulton	F R G Hill	R H Smith
A P Brewster	N A Hollinghurst	R A C Thake
S Brown	T W Hone	R G Tindall
E H Buckmaster	T Howard	A S B Walkington
F Button	T R Hutchings	M A Watkin
H K Crofton	S K Jarvis	J A West
R C Deering	J R Jones	C J White
T L F Douris	J S Kaye	A D Williams
D S Drury	P V Mason	J D Williams
S J Featherstone	G McAndrew	P T Williams
B A Gibson	M B J Mills-Bishop	T J Williams
S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	A J S Mitchell	C B Woodward
S Gordon	M D M Muir	C B Wyatt-Lowe
J M Graham	R G Parker	W J Wyatt-Lowe
L Greensmyth	A Plancey	J F Wyllie
F Guest	S Quilty	P M Zukowskyj

Those abstaining (0)

**6B(iii) 6.11** The following motion was proposed by **J D Williams** and duly seconded by **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst**:-

*“In January 2018, HM Government published “A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment”. On 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the Prime Minister heralded the end the UK's contribution to climate change by setting a target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. At its recent conference in Bournemouth, the Local Government Association (LGA) agreed a motion that:*

- *Calls upon Her Majesty's Government to explore supporting domestic implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through funded partnership roles within each local authority area; and*
- *Encourages councils to continue their work on linking their local*

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- *priorities with the overall ambitions of the SDGs; and*
- *Declares a “Climate Emergency”, and commits to supporting councils in their work to tackle climate change by providing a strong and unified voice for councils in lobbying for support to address this emergency, and sharing best practice across all councils.*

*Hertfordshire County Council’s sphere of influence is broad with the ability to influence carbon emission reductions, improve air quality, promote energy efficiency, seek more sustainable sources of energy, reduce waste production, promote better land use practices, make links to health and wellbeing and influence procurement practices.*

*The Council’s existing initiatives include an Air Quality Strategy, Energy Strategy, a Climate Change Resilient Communities Strategy, a Pollinator Strategy and the Leading by Example working group.*

*To fortify and coordinate the Council’s existing initiatives, contribute to the national imperatives and provide local leadership:*

- *This Council agrees the declaration of a “Climate Emergency”;*
- *Calls upon the Leader of the Council to commit to the development and implementation of an overarching Sustainable Hertfordshire Strategy. This will set out the policies, strategies, implementation plans and resourcing requirements to embed the values of sustainability into the Council’s service delivery, operations, procurement and supplier management as well as the basis for engaging proactively with the County’s many stakeholders, including the 10 Local Planning Authorities, who can contribute to a sustainable Hertfordshire; and*
- *Seek Cabinet approval of an ambitious Sustainable Hertfordshire Strategy by the end of 2019.”*

**6.12** In accordance with Standing Order 13 (4) **C J White** requested a recorded vote; this being supported by all Members of the Council present.

**6.13** The motion at 6.11 was then voted upon and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, the recorded vote being:-

Those in favour (72):-

D Andrews  
D A Ashley  
S Bedford  
N Bell

J M Graham  
L Greensmyth  
F Guest  
J S Hale

A Plancey  
S Quilty  
N A Quinton  
I M Reay

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J Bennett Lovell	D Hart	R M Roberts
P Bibby	K M Hastrick	A F Rowlands
J Billing	T C Heritage	R Sangster
S N Bloxham	D J Hewitt	R H Smith
S J Boulton	F R G Hill	S J Taylor
A P Brewster	N A Hollinghurst	R A C Thake
S Brown	T W Hone	R G Tindall
E H Buckmaster	T Howard	A S B Walkington
F Button	T R Hutchings	M A Watkin
L A Chesterman	S K Jarvis	J A West
H K Crofton	J R Jones	C J White
R C Deering	J S Kaye	A D Williams
T L F Douris	A K Khan	J D Williams
D S Drury	J G L King	P T Williams
M A Eames-Petersen	P V Mason	T J Williams
S J Featherstone	G McAndrew	C B Woodward
B A Gibson	M B J Mills-Bishop	C B Wyatt-Lowe
S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	A J S Mitchell	W J Wyatt-Lowe
E M Gordon	M D M Muir	J F Wyllie
S Gordon	R G Parker	P M Zukowskyj

**6.14** The **Chairman** advised Council that in accordance with Standing Order 11 (16) (e) and (f) motions 6B(iv) and 6B(v) at 6.6 and 6.7 of the Order Paper would FALL.

**6.15** **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst** raised a point of order [Standing Order 11 (16) (d) stating that no warning of the expiration of the 2 hour period assigned to Motions on the Executive Report had been given to Council.

**6.15** The **Chairman** confirmed her ruling set out in 6.14.

## 7. QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

**7.1** During the period for questions to Executive Members under SO 8 (7)(c) the following Members asked questions (and, where indicated, supplementary questions) of the Executive Member or their Deputy as stated. [Questions and responses are listed by portfolio and can be viewed on the webcast of this meeting here [Webcast - Council Meeting 190716](#)]

[Questions are listed by portfolio (in alphabetical order)].

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<b>Executive Member</b>	<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Leader of the Council	S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	Local Government Chronicle article on lack of progress being made on local government reorganisation and the Leader's view on local government reform in Hertfordshire <sup>1</sup>
	J Billing	Congratulating the Leader of the Council on his recent election as Chairman of the County Councils Network and asking how he intends to balance the responsibilities of both roles
Adult Care & Health	N A Quinton	Requesting confirmation that there will be no additional increases in service user charges beyond inflation to help meet the shortfall in local government funding <sup>1</sup>
	E M Gordon	Requesting that the Executive Member investigate the option of providing adult residential care in-house rather than using external providers and requesting information on how the Council tests the resilience of current care providers to ensure that they can provide the accommodation commissioned of them for the duration of their contract <sup>1</sup>
	F Guest	Work being undertaken between the County Council and district and borough councils in Hertfordshire with respect to provision of extra care housing in the County
Children, Young People & Families	P M Zukowskyj	Given reduction in funding for youth support in this year's Integrated Plan, the national focus on knife crime and the requirement for the Council to deliver youth services, requesting assurance that there will not be further reductions to youth budgets; and potential impact of reductions on the third sector <sup>1</sup>
	N Bell	Requesting what it is intended that the Youth Strategy Statement will achieve and seeking assurance that resources will be available to address the needs identified by

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		young people <sup>1</sup>
Community Safety & Waste Management	J S Hale	Discussions with the Secretary of State regarding costs incurred by the Council as a result of the continued delay in reaching a decision on the proposed Energy Recovery Facility and when that decision can now be expected
	J Bennett-Lovell	What County Council services are available to the LGBTQ+ community in Hertfordshire and requesting how the Council is working with the Police and Crime Commissioner to protect this community from hate crimes <sup>1</sup>
Education, Libraries and Localism	A F Rowlands	Action taken by the Executive Member in respect of the de-delegation of funding for school improvement and support which it is anticipated will be difficult to attract after 2019/20 and which is regarded as the principle risk in a recent report to the Education, Libraries and Localism Cabinet Panel
	E M Gordon	The accuracy of a report considered by Panel and Cabinet in relation to the relocation of the Education Support Centre from Potters Bar to the former Southfield School site in Hatfield <sup>1</sup>
	D J Hewitt	Whether the Executive Member is satisfied with the education contribution sought from the Cheshunt Lakeside application in his division <sup>1</sup>
Growth, Infrastructure, Planning & the Economy	S K Jarvis	Whether, in light of the LTP4 objectives, the Executive Member agrees that the Council's review to address its financial challenges should not include further reductions to the funding to support bus services
	A K Khan	Loss of employment space in the County and strategy being adopted and action being taken by the Executive Member to arrest the loss of office and commercial space in Hertfordshire <sup>1</sup>
	A P Brewster	Intended further expansion of Luton

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		Airport passenger journeys, whether the Council should revisit its policy of supporting the Airport's best use of its existing runway, non-receipt of promised mitigation on the County's roads, railways and skies, and the environmental cost of this expansion
Highways & Environment	S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	Following issue of an information to Cabinet Panel Members regarding s184 of the Highways Act 1980, what action has been taken by the Highways Authority to restrict damage to footways and verges, and requesting that an update be taken to Panel on this issue including progress on the development of a Hertfordshire By-Law <sup>1</sup>
	J G L King	What measures are in place to prevent roads 'dipping' as a result of hot weather and requesting that reparation of such road faults, particularly where it impacts on the 'fit' of manhole covers, is undertaken as quickly as possible <sup>1</sup>
	R C Deering	Excellent condition of the highways in Hertfordshire and extending his congratulations to Lewis Hamilton, former resident of Stevenage, on his sixth Formula 1 Grand Prix win <sup>1</sup>
Public Health and Prevention	R G Tindall	Seeking assurance that there will be no cuts to early intervention measures when the ring-fencing of public health monies ends and requesting that NHS Trusts are made aware of the impact on their services of reductions in public health budgets with a view to achieving improved financial collaboration <sup>1</sup>
	L A Chesterman	Progress made in including a 'public health impacts' paragraph in all (formal meeting) reports and on the Public Health and Prevention Cabinet Panel's request that district and borough councils do the same <sup>1</sup>
Resources and Performance	S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	Requesting the establishment of a Member Advisory Group to review the Council's contractual

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		arrangements for the provision of services with a view to identifying those which could be brought in-house in order to reduce expenditure and provide a more effective and cost efficient service; and a Westminster policy briefing on local government finance exploring commercialisation and successful use of in and out-sourcing of services <sup>1</sup>
	S J Taylor	Opportunity for cross-party consideration and contribution to discussions relating to how future and in-year savings requirements will be met, and requesting that the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel provide this opportunity <sup>1</sup>
	A J S Mitchell	What the relationship is between the Pensions Committee and the Executive and whether the Executive has the authority to instruct the Committee

Notes: 1 - denotes that a supplementary question was also asked  
2 – denotes that a written reply will be given

## 7.2 Written questions to Executive Members – Standing Order 8(9)

7.2.1 Written questions to Executive Members and responses are set out in the attached Annex.

## 8. REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8.1 The following motion proposed by **D Andrews** and duly seconded by **K M Hastrick** was CARRIED:-

*“That the report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received.”*

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**9. REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

- 9.1** The following motion proposed by **S Quilty** and duly seconded by **C J White** was CARRIED:-

*“That the report from the Health Scrutiny Committee be received.”*

**10. HERTFORDSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD CONSTITUTION**

- 10.1** The following motion proposed by **R M Roberts** and duly seconded by **T C Heritage** was CARRIED:-

*“That County Council:-*

- (i) agrees the amendments to the Constitution of the Board as set out in the report; and*
- (ii) authorises the Chief Legal Officer to make such amendments to the Constitution of the Board and to the County Council’s Constitution as are necessary to give effect to (i) above.”*

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION – STANDING ORDER 9(6)**

- 11A. 11.1** The following motion was proposed by **S K Jarvis** and duly seconded by **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst**:-

*“This Council notes that a number of other highway authorities have adopted the planting of wild flowers and other alternative methods of managing highway verges that improve bio-diversity without increasing the cost of verge maintenance. Whilst recognising that there are areas where vegetation must be cut for reasons of highway safety it believes that there are opportunities for adopting such strategies on many of Hertfordshire's roads.*

*The Council notes that in March it agreed a motion on the Pollinator Action Plan and note that the Council has already recognised the need for such measures.*

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*It also notes growing concern about the bio-diversity and potential health impacts of the widespread use of glyphosate weed killers on the edges of the highway network.*

*It requests the Executive Member for Highways and Environment to bring forward proposals to manage the maintenance of highway in ways that improve bio-diversity.”*

**11.2** In accordance with Standing Order 9(8), the Chairman advised Council that the motion stood referred to the Highways and Environment Cabinet Panel for consideration.

**11.3** The following motion was proposed by **S B A F H Giles-Medhurst** and duly seconded by **S K Jarvis**:-

*“This Council resolves to register its concern about the continued use of “stone chipping” micro-surfacing in urban roads and the problems this causes in low volume roads and where there are parked cars.*

*It requests the Executive Member for Highways and Environment to bring forward a report on the suitability of this treatment and other alternatives.”*

**11.4** In accordance with Standing Order 9(8), the Chairman advised Council that the motion stood referred to the Highways and Environment Cabinet Panel for consideration.

**11.5** The following motion was proposed by **R G Tindall** and duly seconded by **N A Quinton**:-

*“On 20th June, the Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board received a report from the Hertfordshire Partnership University Foundation NHS Trust, (HPFT), which included an overview of HPFT’s plans for 2019/20, which in turn included an update on issues pertaining to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) services.*

*Arising from the debate on 20th June, this Council:-*

- 1. Takes note of paragraph 2.4 in which it is stated that 2019/20 will be a very challenging year with demand for services reaching their highest levels – across all ages;*
- 2. acknowledges that the demands for CAMHS services are not*

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*being met;*

3. *undertakes to request that the STP work stream on Mental Health be expanded to include attention on services to women and children;*
4. *acknowledges that Hertfordshire Schools are under increasing financial and workload pressures and calls for greater NHS support to schools in respect of CAMHS;*
5. *asks that the NHS Neighbourhood Services recognise that local schools should form an integral part of that service delivery;*

*In addition*

6. *recognises that more resources for Mental Health Services are needed to properly fund CAMHS and the wider Mental Health Services.”*

**11.6** In accordance with Standing Order 9(8), the Chairman advised Council that the motion stood referred to the Children, Young People and Families Cabinet Panel for consideration.

**QUENTIN BAKER  
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

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WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS – STANDING ORDER 8

1. **Written question from S B A F H Giles-Medhurst to P Bibby, Executive Member for Highways and Environment**

“Given the expected and continued high growth of EV (electric vehicles) there is recognition that highway authorities should facilitate the infrastructure and charging platforms required for these. The Mayor of London has an EV infrastructure delivery plan.

Given the above will the Executive member now consider and bring forward to a future panel meeting a report on how the county, as the highway authority, can assist and enable, especially in new developments, a future-proofed environmental sustainable on road highways charging points plan in conjunction with the districts and boroughs?”

**P Bibby** has replied:-

*“A strategy to help guide the County Council and the District and Boroughs is in development and has been supported by several round table officer discussions with the Districts and Boroughs to help shape the work. I will bring a report to a future Panel advising how we will support a sustainable collaborative approach to on-road EV charging.*

*The work is seeking to:-*

- 1. Review the trends and a range of forecast for uptake, vehicle sales, new models coming onto the market by vehicle type*
- 2. Review of where the market is heading in the short, medium and long term – future charge point technologies (types, charging rates, layouts/formats etc), charging locations (identify if there is a push by the large providers to develop dedicated charging stations) and availability/accessibility of charge facilities for residents – Hertfordshire and adjacent area specific – national overview*
- 3. Review how local authorities can manage risk associated with installation, operation and maintenance of on-street and off-street charging equipment. How can local authorities protect themselves against rapidly evolving EV charging technology and not be left with responsibility to remove/uninstall outdated technology.*
- 4. Identify (based on readily available data) an approximate proportion of residents reliant on on-street parking in Hertfordshire (as granular as possible)*
- 5. Develop local uptake forecast rates by vehicle type/locations, including*

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*existing requests*

6. *Recommendations on how to promote/facilitate EV uptake amongst those reliant on on-street parking*
7. *Review how a model based on centralised rapid charging hubs including destination charging, similar to the current 'filling station' model, might meet the long-term charging needs of Hertfordshire. This will need to consider the impact of any new charging infrastructure on the capacity of electricity network.*

**Outcome** – *from this work/evidence we want to present options and a preferred scenarios to define our position for on-street charging infrastructure and form the basis to identify our role to overcome the barriers to EV adoption in the county.*

*There is an option to take it t a Member Advisory Group in advance of Panel after the commissioned work is complete and provides an evidence base."*

**2. Written question from T Williams to the T R Hutchings, Executive Member for Public Health and Prevention**

*"Hertfordshire has some of the worst air pollution outside of London and rightly so many residents are increasingly concerned over air quality. Could the Cabinet Member responsible at Hertfordshire County Council highlight how many Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) there are within Hertfordshire, and could these be listed within the relevant districts/boroughs within Hertfordshire.*

*Are all of these AQMA reviewed and reassessed with relevant action plans being agreed with the relevant district/borough to address the issues/concerns raised.*

*Traffic Congestion is no doubt a contributory factor within these AQMA how realistic is the Local Transport Plan (LTP4) to address these concerns or is more intervention/direction from central government required?"*

**T R Hutchings** has replied:

*"Hertfordshire County Council recognises that it has a role to play in tackling poor air quality, and has recently approved its new Air Quality Strategy and Implementation Plan<sup>1</sup> which seeks to clearly set out the County Council's policy position on the matter to foster collaborative working whilst avoiding ambiguity and duplication. The Strategy supports and complements the*

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<sup>11</sup> <https://democracy.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=146>

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*Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan, adopted in 2018<sup>2</sup>, and is the first step of a longer process designed to develop a joint strategy between the County Council and the ten Hertfordshire District and Borough Authorities.*

**To address each part of the question:**

***Hertfordshire has some of the worst air pollution outside of London and rightly so many residents are increasingly concerned over air quality***

1. *It is not the case that Hertfordshire has some of the worst air pollution outside London. If it were, Government would have intervened as it has elsewhere. In fact, only one Borough in Hertfordshire was identified as exceeding air pollution limit values, and on only one pollutant.*
2. *But I agree that residents across the whole country (not just Herts) should be rightly concerned. It's a key health protection challenge and one which requires significant behavioural change – this in itself is a huge challenge to achieve, not least because it is not a visible problem (out of sight, out of mind), and because the behavioural changes also mean significant lifestyle changes for many.*

***Could the Cabinet Member responsible at Hertfordshire County Council highlight how many Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) there are within Hertfordshire, and could these be listed within the relevant districts/boroughs within Hertfordshire?***

1. *All of this can be found in the HCC Air Quality Strategy that was adopted by Cabinet in April<sup>3</sup>. This Strategy supports*
2. *The County Council Air Quality Strategy includes a table on Page 9 (and a map in the Appendix) that lists the location of all the District and Borough Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Hertfordshire. it refers only to Districts and Boroughs that have declared AQMAs in line with DEFRA guidance.*
  - a. *The circumstances under which a local authority must declare an AQMA are detailed in DEFRA Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) guidance*  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-air-quality-management-policy-guidance-pg09> .
3. ***All*** *Hertfordshire District and Borough Authorities' are meeting their duties under the Environment Act<sup>4</sup>. All continuous Hertfordshire*

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/about-the-council/consultations/ltp4-local-transport-plan-4-complete.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://democracy.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=146>

<sup>4</sup> Section 82 of the Environment Act 1995 provides that every local authority shall review the air quality within its area, both at the present time and the likely future air quality. Section 83 requires local authorities

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monitoring data is available at  
[https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la\\_id=408](https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la_id=408)

4. To clarify the position on Stevenage and Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's, both of which do not feature in this table.
  - In the case of Stevenage and Welwyn Hatfield, there are no declared AQMAs because monitoring shows the air quality meets national air quality objectives. Further information can be found here: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/>
  - Both Borough Council's do monitor air quality in a range of locations and their respective Environmental Health teams can provide further detail on where these locations are. However, for ease, Stevenage's monitoring location information is at <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/pollution/25806/>, and Welwyn Hatfield's monitoring location information is at <https://www.welhat.gov.uk/air-quality>
5. Public Health recognises that there are inherent limitations to the DEFRA criteria for declaring AQMAs, and we actively advocate for improvements as and when the opportunity arises

**Are all of these AQMAs reviewed and reassessed with relevant action plans being agreed with the relevant district/borough to address the issues/concerns raised?**

1. Yes, we are working on an all eleven council air quality strategy. But the designation, monitoring and management of Air Quality Management Areas is a statutory function of District and Borough Council's -the County Council does not have oversight of this.

**Traffic Congestion is no doubt a contributory factor within these AQMAs, how realistic is the Local Transport Plan (LTP4) to address these concerns or is more intervention/direction from central government required?**

1. I agree that the LTP4<sup>5</sup> is just one component of response to air quality. It sets out what the County Council will be doing in coming years on its road network. The Air Quality Strategy supports and complements the Local Transport Plan.
  - a. The most important policy commitment in LTP4 is the movement hierarchy – because the best way to reduce transport related air pollution within towns will be to encourage more local journeys to be on foot, by bicycle or by public transport.

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to designate an air quality management area where air quality objectives are not being achieved, or are not likely to be achieved within the relevant period, as set out in the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/about-the-council/consultations/ltp4-local-transport-plan-4-complete.pdf>

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2. *A great deal is driven by national policy and new technology changes. We would strongly welcome more direction from central government, as per the letter we drafted to Michael Gove from David Williams earlier this year on the matter.*
3. *Moreover, while transport is a major factor, other sources play a role which are even harder to influence -including the individual use of wood burning stoves in residential homes.....a notable source of PM2.5, but this is difficult to quantify locally for any area.*

**Response**

1. *Section 82 of the Environment Act 1995 provides that every local authority shall review the air quality within its area, both at the present time and the likely future air quality. Section 83 requires local authorities to designate an air quality management area where air quality objectives are not being achieved, or are not likely to be achieved within the relevant period, as set out in the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000.*
2. *All Hertfordshire District and Borough Authorities' are meeting their duties under the Environment Act. All continuous Hertfordshire monitoring data is available at [https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la\\_id=408](https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk/local-authority/?la_id=408)*
3. *In the case of Stevenage and Welwyn Hatfield, there are no declared AQMAs because monitoring shows the air quality meets national air quality objectives. Further information can be found here: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/>*
4. *Public Health recognises that there are inherent limitations to the DEFRA criteria for declaring AQMAs, and we actively advocate for improvements as and when the opportunity arises.*

**3. Written question from S K Jarvis to D A Ashley, Executive Member for Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy**

*“Can the Executive Member confirm that the Council's response to the Heathrow airport expansion consultation will be considered by the September meeting of the GRIPE Cabinet Panel?”*

**D A Ashley** has replied:

*“There is a considerable amount of activity in the aviation sector at this time having implications for Hertfordshire, some of which being closer to home*

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*than London Heathrow. Indeed, the Hertfordshire Growth Board received an update last week. GRIPE Cabinet Panel periodically receives updates on aviation-related matters and I can confirm that another of these will occur in September. It will include the London Heathrow expansion consultation and will seek Panel's views on how the County Council/Hertfordshire should respond."*

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